

REMARKS**In the Claims:**

Claims 15-26 remain in this application. Claims 1-14 have been canceled.

Claims 15-20 have been amended. Claims 21-26 have been added.

Provisional Election With Traverse:

In order to comply with the election of species requirement, Applicants provisionally elect, with traverse, to prosecute species 2 shown in Figure 1c, including at least claims 15-17 and 19-23.

Applicants note that at least claims 15 and 16 are generic to all species. Claims 17, 20, and 23 are generic to species 1-4. Claims 19 and 22 are generic to species 2-4. Claim 21 is generic to species 1 and 2.

Traverse: No Serious Burden for Examination:

As traversal, as pointed out in §803 of the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure, if a search and an examination of an entire application can be made without serious burden, the Examiner must examine the application on the merits even though the application includes claims to distinct or independent inventions. A review of the Office Action reveals that such Office Action has failed to provide any indication as to how or why a search and examination of an entirety of the claims in the instant application would create a serious burden on the part of the United States Patent and Trademark Office. In fact, it is respectfully submitted that a serious burden does not exist, as each species relates to sealing a volume between first and second dies.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: Aug. 17, 2005



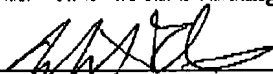
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CERTIFICATE OF TRANSMISSION
(37 C.F.R. § 1.8(a))

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being transmitted by facsimile to the United States Patent and Trademark Office on Aug. 17, 2005.

Michael Plimier
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